Career and Technical Education (CTE) News and Information

May 2020

Career and Technical Education provides all students access to high-quality, rigorous career-focused programs that result in attainment of credentials with labor market value.

Teacher Appreciation Week: #ThankATeacher

May 4-8 is Teacher Appreciation Week and Tuesday, May 5 is National Teacher Day. Utah CTE celebrates and honors every teacher in the state of Utah. Thank you for your hard work and diligence as you teach and inspire your students every day, especially during this unprecedented time as you teach digitally.

Resources, for Teacher Appreciation Week, are available from the National PTA, including a toolkit with flyers, thank you cards, certificates, social media and Web graphics.

Kaziah Pulley: Skyridge High School

“My woodworking teacher, Mr. Karlsven, has been influential in my career choice in multiple ways. He has given me suggestions to simplify my projects and accomplish them in the most efficient ways. He has given me options for projects and allowed me to design my own projects. I have learned that there are so many things you can make from wood, which has really inspired me. I now have a new hobby of woodworking, which I can continue after high school. A possible career opportunity would even be to open my own woods shop. One of the many advantages [CTE] courses have provided me with is being able to enhance my skills in areas I already love.”

Cammeron Foard: Copper Hills High School

“It is hard to think of one teacher who had the greatest impact on my decision to become a high school business teacher. Mr. Rob Willardson taught me that you should always care deeply for your students and get to know them on a personal level. Rickee Stewart helped me grow my love of business. Matt Tranter taught me that you can still have lots of fun as a teacher. Mr. Kyle Jensen helped me take the deep dive into teaching. All of these teachers have done different things for me, but they all have one thing in common. I know that they all care about me, and they have made my high school career amazing. One day when I am teaching, I hope to be able to do that for at least one of my students, because then I will know that it was all worth it. Thank you!”

What is your CTE story?
Ashley Keck, Pleasant Grove High School

“The most influential person who helped me find my career path was the athletic trainer at Pleasant Grove High School. After my concussion, while playing volleyball, Kristin Everett invited me to take her sports medicine class, to see if I would be interested in being an athletic trainer. I was fascinated with what I learned in her class, and I went on to take other CTE classes that were relevant to my career path. I was one of four students who she chose to be one of her interns. She has been a respected high school athletic trainer for 20 years, and I am both honored and committed to be learning alongside her.”

Chuong Vu, Bingham High School

“Andrea Call had a huge influence on my career choice. She was always willing to help me when I asked. She gave me advice on what classes to take to maximize my time and money spent in college. She has been my teacher for three years. During these three years she has always been there for me, giving advice or potential ideas for my business, that I hope to create.”

Brittany Grover, San Juan High School

“My anatomy teacher has been a great influence in my life, and in making a career choice. She made it fun to learn about the body, and all that it can do. She opened my eyes to careers I hadn’t thought about. By encouraging me each day, she has helped me in ways that will continue to help me for years to come. She was there to support me and make me feel like I can pursue my dreams.”

Noah Hardman, Murray High School

“My love of woodworking came from my dad, but it was Mr. Drury, my CTE teacher, that helped me realize that I could take this hobby and turn it into a career. One way he did this was by providing me the opportunity to work on building our speck house. Seeing my hobby in a much grander scale, and practical application, made me look at things in a completely different light.”

Jazmine Jackson, American Fork High School

“A teacher who was especially influential in my career choice is Ms. Carli Fish, who is a CTE teacher at American Fork High School. I looked forward to her classes and I really loved her teaching style. I had the opportunity to teach her preschool class multiple times. She always supported me and provided guidance with my lesson plan. Ms. Fish made me feel like I did such a great job teaching. With her as a mentor, I realized how much I love to teach. She truly is an inspiration.”

Anthony Shober, Gunnison High School

“In 8th grade, I had a teacher named Mr. Evan Westenskow. He taught woods. Taking his class showed me how much I love working with my hands and building things. He was encouraging and patient as he [worked] with me. I really appreciated his instruction. I learned how much fun working with my hands, to build something, could be.”

Calendar:

May 7: Utah State Board of Education Meeting – 250 East 500 South – Salt Lake City, UT
May 14: Utah State Charter School Board Meeting – 250 East 500 South – Salt Lake City, UT

The CTE Directions newsletter will be on hiatus during June, July, and August. The newsletter will return in September with resources to assist you in promoting your CTE programs. Have a great summer! Stay safe. Stay healthy.